



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS

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## Board of Supervisors

Gloria Molina, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Zev Yaroslavsky, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Don Knabe, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Michael D. Antonovich, 5<sup>th</sup> District

## Executive Board

Bernard Weintraub, President  
Aida M. Villalobos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Peter J. McGrath, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
David Siegrist, Secretary  
Barbara Sinclair, Fiscal Officer

Brenda Sapp-Pradia  
Executive Liaison

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS

## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Monday, February 07, 2011

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

3175 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, (Board) Collaboration Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90020

## COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
Mary Helen Cruz	Frank P. Calderon	Krishan Bhalla	Ralph Flores	Natalie Ambrose
Gloria Duran	Matty Fegan-Perry	Sol Fingold	Irene Griffith	Nneenah Frazier
William Givens	Zelda Hutcherson	Marilyn Fried	William Ha	Bianca Langley
Samuel Park	William Jackson	Peter Getzoff	Hedy L. Harrison	Peter McGrath
	Theresa Rotter	Oleeta Igar	Cindy Skovgard	Arlene Okamoto
	Lavada Theus	Barbara Meltzer		Marvin Schachter
	Aida M. Villalobos	Bernard Weintraub		Barbara Sinclair
		Elizabeth Wilson		Liz Wong
				Vicente Zapata

## COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED ABSENCE

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
David Siegrist	Eleanor Brownn		Raymond Hall	
	Lonnie McNamee		Jung J. Kim	
	Nate Riddick			

## COMMISSIONERS UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
		Maurice Weiner	Aziz Amiri	
			James Polk	

**CSS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Brenda Sapp-Pradia, Program Manager, Larry Littleton, Human Services Administrator I; Vera Castillo, Community Services Analyst III, and Guillermo Medina, Staff Assistant II.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Weintraub called the LACCOA Meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. President Weintraub announced that Commissioner Lavada Theus will be serving as Sergeant-At-Arms.

LACCOA advocates for the needs and well-being of older adults in Los Angeles County

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**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Nneenah Frazier led the pledge of allegiance.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commission moved and seconded to accept and file the January 03, 2011, the LACCOA General Meeting minutes with the following changes: Commissioner Bianca Langley stated her name is under the wrong District in the attendance roster; Commissioner Marilyn Fried stated that Article 9, item 9.2 Area Plan Committee report needs to be revised; and Commissioner Langley stated that a correction needs to be made on Article 9, item 9.3.1. Minutes were approved with corrections.

**5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Weintraub stated the following:

- A. He tried to navigate through the LACCOA website using the web address on top of the LACCOA letterhead and it was not user friendly. He is requesting for CSS staff to modify the LACCOA letterhead to have a more user friendly web address.
- B. The picture on the website is an outdated photo of past Commissioners.
- C. Commissioner Julia Rosenberg's term has been terminated.
- D. A copy of a letter sent to Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas on behalf of LACCOA expressing full support for affordable healthcare was included in the packet distributed.
- E. Expressed displeasure for the lack of participation for the Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD), committees, Ad Hoc's and other events. He is asking that if Commissioners will not be active in the Commission and in the Committees to reconsider their membership in LACCOA. He will be reviewing the attendance logs for the Committee meetings and the general meetings.
- F. Met with Cynthia D. Banks, CSS Director, regarding the LACCOA Strategic Plan and lack of CSS staff support.
- G. President Weintraub is asking all Committee Chairs to attend the next Executive Board to further discuss the Strategic Plan.
- H. A copy of the congratulatory letter that was sent out to all the newly elected officials was included in the packet given out. President Weintraub thanked Vera Castillo (CSS staff) for writing the letters.

**6. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

Brenda Sapp-Pradia, Program Manager/Executive Liaison, stated that there will be an internal meeting of departmental staff to discuss the OARD event. She also stated that Gwen Johnson has retired from County service and staffing for the OARD event and LACCOA meetings will be limited.

Larry Littleton stated, per new County Policy, that all Commissioners will be issued new County badges in the near future. Commissioners who attended December's meeting had their pictures

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taken and Commissioners who did not attend that meeting will need to have their picture taken in Human Resources. All Commissioners will need to complete new paperwork for the badges.

**7. FINANCE REPORT**

Commissioner Sinclair reported that there was an initial estimate of \$2,000 for new LACCOA brochures. CSS staff has not received a price quote for the ASA conference scheduled for San Francisco in April 2011. If any of the committees have budget request, contact her to further discuss the request.

During discussion, Commissioner Elizabeth Wilson suggested that look at moving around some of the allocated funds in the budget. Commissioner Zelda Hutcherson suggested that they receive a list of all known upcoming conferences and seminars in order for them to be included in the budget as a reference for future spending.

**8. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Vera Castillo, Legislative Analyst, stated that there will be eleven measures for the March 8 primary elections for the City of Los Angeles. The measures are outlined in the handout distributed prior to the meeting.

Ms. Castillo also stated that President Obama will be releasing his proposed budget for FY 2012 in mid-February 2011. As for the State budget, Governor Brown has release his budget proposal for FY 2011-2012, which includes about \$85 billion in state general revenue and strategies to address a budget deficit of \$25 billion by having the following proposed solutions:

- \$12.497 billion in reductions
- \$12.027 billion in revenue
- \$1.885 billion in borrowing

The proposed reductions include a 52% reduction in health and human services. Proposed reductions proposed to the following programs:

- CalWORKS
- Medi-Cal
- IHSS and SSI/SSP

There is also a proposal to eliminate the MSSP and Adult Day Health Care programs.

The Governor is proposing a five-year extension of three current taxes to close the budget gap. The plan is to have these tax extensions before the voters in the June 2011 election. These taxes are: sales tax, vehicle license fee, and personal income tax. These taxes were enacted in 2009 and are set to expire in June 2011.

**9. SELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Aida Villalobos presented the motion to open the floor for the selection of the Nominating Committee. Commissioner Zelda Hutcherson seconded the motion. Motion passed. There will be up to ten candidates taken from the floor and the Commission will vote for five members.

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CSS staff distributed the ballots and Commissioners are allowed to vote for only five candidates and sign the ballot before submitting them.

The following Commissioners were elected as the Nominating Committee:

- Aziz Amiri
- Gloria Duran
- Nneenah Frazier
- Bianca Langley
- Peter McGrath, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

10.1.1 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Aida Villalobos distributed a sign-up sheet for the following Ad-Hoc Committees: Annual, Awards, Nominating, Older American Recognition Day, and Policy and Procedures. Commissioners who signed up will be contacted for their first meetings.

10.1.2 Needs Assessment Ad Hoc: Commissioner Marilyn Fried reported that she met with Cynthia D. Banks, Lorenza Sanchez, and Brenda Sapp-Pradia to discuss the Needs Assessment for LACCOA. The assessment must be completed by November 2011 in order to have the information needed to complete the Area Plan in May 2012. CSS staff was asked to gather surveys of the needs of seniors, including baby boomers, from counties in California and from large senior communities outside of California by January 27, 2011 with an assessment a week later. CSS staff is still waiting to receive these surveys.

10.1.3 Bylaws Ad Hoc: Commissioners William Jackson and Gloria Duran reported the bylaws committee had three recommended changes to the bylaws for the Commission to vote on. The following are the proposed changes:

1. Article 11 Executive Board, Section F, add to be more explicit about having the Executive Board report to General body before any actions
2. Article 7 Officers, the suggestion is to have the chairpersons of standing committees be voting members of the Executive Board.
3. Article 12 Committees, Section B, Health, Nutrition, Long-Term Care needs to be rewritten.

Commissioner Peter McGrath presented the Committee Chairs to give the Standing Committee Reports and reminded them to keep their reports to three minutes:

10.2.1 Area Plan Committee Chair, Marilyn Fried reported that the Committee met prior to the general meeting. She reported that the Public Hearings were held in January and February 2011. There were eight overall public hearings, four were joined with the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging, three hearings were County only and one was conducted by the City of Los Angeles. Commissioner Fried commended Commissioners Natalie Ambrose, Gloria Duran, Arlene Okamoto, and Cindy Skovgard for serving as hearing officers during the hearings.

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Commissioner Fried also thanked the following Commissioners for attending the hearings: Mary Helen Cruz, Gloria Duran, Sol Fingold, Nneenah Frazier, Peter McGrath, Sam Park, Aida Villalobos, and Elizabeth Wilson.

Commissioner Fried stated that some of the concerns of seniors during the hearings were as followed:

- Transportation, including cutbacks in routes that reduced attendance at Senior Centers for the meal programs
- Complaints about the ACCESS program
- Public Hearings were not conveniently located or accessible by public transportation
- The need for financial assistance and for low cost housing
- Concerns of Adult Day Healthcare and Adult Day Care Centers closing
- Concerns of Elder Abuse and Adult Protective Services
- The time of the hearings were too late for the seniors to attend

In Veterans Affairs, there is an active general who will be speaking to the committee and possibly to the Commission to discuss elder veterans.

In Elder Abuse, the committee asked Anna Avdalyan and Larry Littleton, CSS staff, to gather information regarding Adult Protective Services Elder Abuse cases and how it pertains to the Area Plan.

- 10.2.2 Communications Committee Chair, Barbara Meltzer reported the LACCOA brochure should be completed by the end of the month. Commission Meltzer has met with CSS Communications Production Team regarding the new LACCOA website. The new website should be ready in the next few weeks.  
Commissioner Meltzer thanked the Commission for suggestions for celebrities for the new Speakers Bureau video. She also stated that meetings with CSS' communications staff have started.
- 10.2.3 Membership Committee Chair, Nneenah Frazier announced that there are only three members in the committee. Commissioner Frazier stated there is a vacancy due to Julia Rosenberg's term being terminated. Commissioners are encouraged to recruit for possible replacement. The committee will be working on updating the membership application at the next meeting.
- 10.2.4 Health, Nutrition and Long-Term Care Committee Chair, Irene Griffith stated that Dr. Tony Kuo, Los Angeles County Public Health Department, Office of Senior Health, will be speaking at their next committee meeting, scheduled immediately after the general meeting. Dr. Kuo will address issues that are affecting the senior community and the possible impact of the current healthcare legislation.
- 10.2.5 Legislative and Advocacy Committee Chair, Sol Fingold encouraged for all Commissioners to contact their elected officials.

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- 10.2.6 Housing and Transportation Committee Chair, Aida Villalobos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, reported that several Commissioners attended the Seniors on the Move workshop in Long Beach. Commissioner Villalobos thanked Commissioner Mary Helen Cruz, Co-Chair of Transportation for leading the workshop. Commissioner Villalobos expressed her wishes to conduct a Housing Fair by the end of the year. Commissioner Villalobos also expressed her concern of the attendance of some committee members, there were only four members that attended last meeting. If this problem continues, maybe the committee should look into changing the time of the meeting into the afternoon. Commissioner Mary Helen Cruz stated that the next workshop is scheduled for February 24, 2011 at the Glendale Adult Recreation Center.

**11. DISTRICT LEAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

President Weintraub asked the District Lead Commissioners to give their reports.

- 11.1 District 1  
Commissioner Samuel Park stated that there are still four vacancies open in District 1. Supervisor Molina's office has been notified of the vacancies.
- 11.2 District 2  
Commissioner Lavada Theus stated that she has requested to meet with Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' office.
- 11.3 District 3  
No report given
- 11.4 District 4  
Commissioner Cindy Skovgard stated that she will meet with Supervisor Knabe's office on March 9th, 2011.
- 11.5 District 5  
No report given

**12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**14. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- President Weintraub announced that a petition sheet has been placed for funding for Adult Daycare Centers.
- Commissioner Marvin Schachter announced that the Pasadena City Council will be having a housing workshop on February 7, 2011.
- Commissioner Schachter urged the Commissioners to get involved with their local senior commissions in their local cities.

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**15. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments.

**16. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

Monday, March 7, 2011.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

**APPROVED AND FILED: MARCH 07, 2011**